

How Lapland Aligns Business and RDI under S3

Antti Eteläaho, Lapin kauppakamari

Kasvua ja kilpailukykyä Lapista (A81739)



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About me

- Specialist & Project Manager, Lapland Chamber of Commerce (Apr 2022–present)
- Earlier roles: Student Union of the University of Lapland; journalist for several ice-hockey websites
- Chair, Lapland Smart Specialisation Coordination Group



YEAR 2024: Strong growth in tourism, not favourable industrial situation



Population

- 176,150 (+/- 0)

Workforce

- 81 340



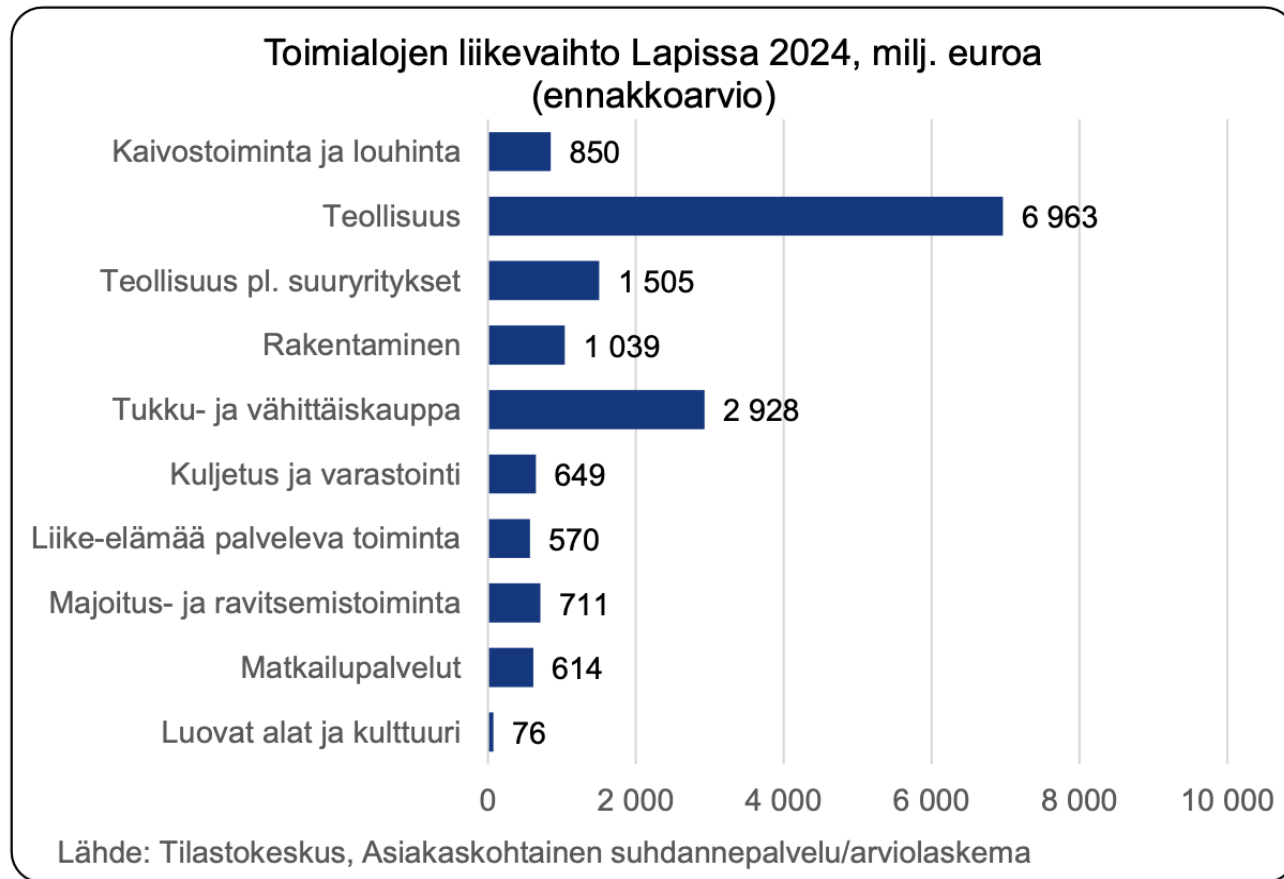
Export 2024

- €3.413 billion (-11.1%)
- 5.6% of Finland's total exports
- 6th largest export province

66% of jobs in the private sector.

Companies' turnover in 2024 (preliminary):

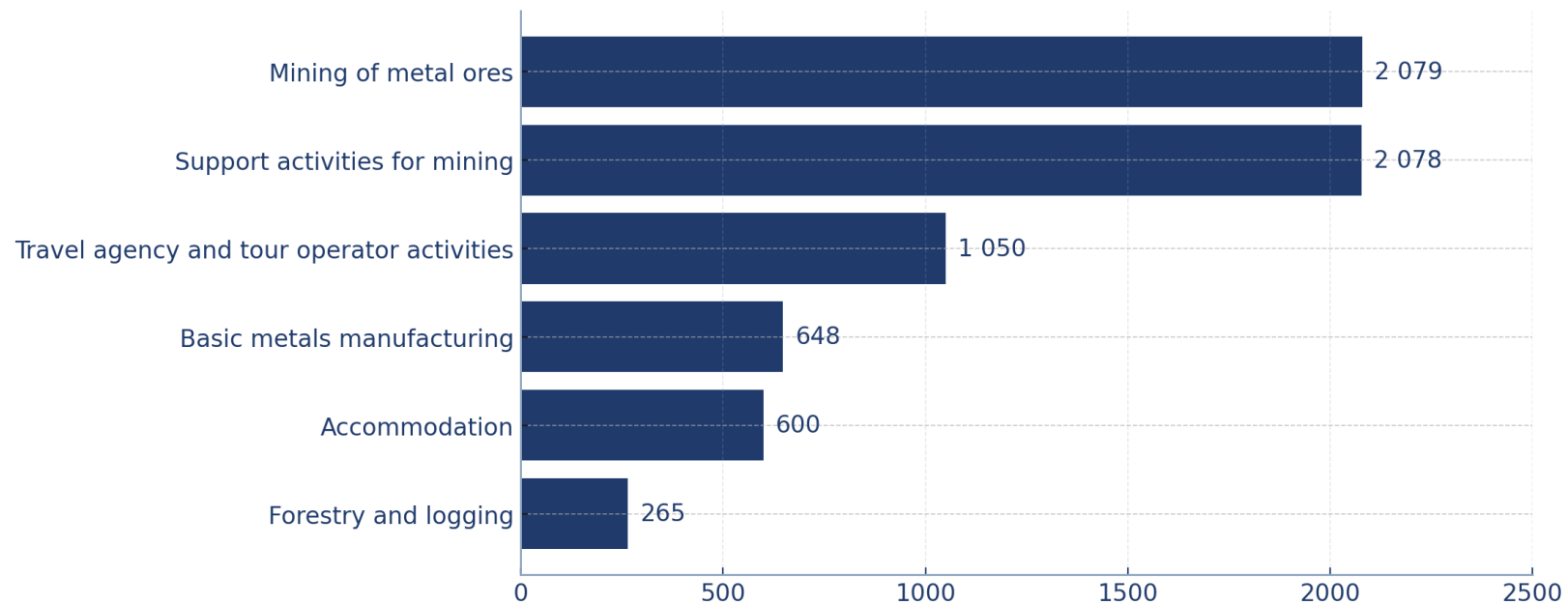
- €16.284 billion (-1%)



“Smart specialisation sectors” and growth drivers

Index (Finland = 100)

Lapland's strongest specialisation sectors



Source: Statistics Finland, Industry-specific Enterprise Information Service, 2023.

Translation & chart: ChatGPT and Antti Eteläaho



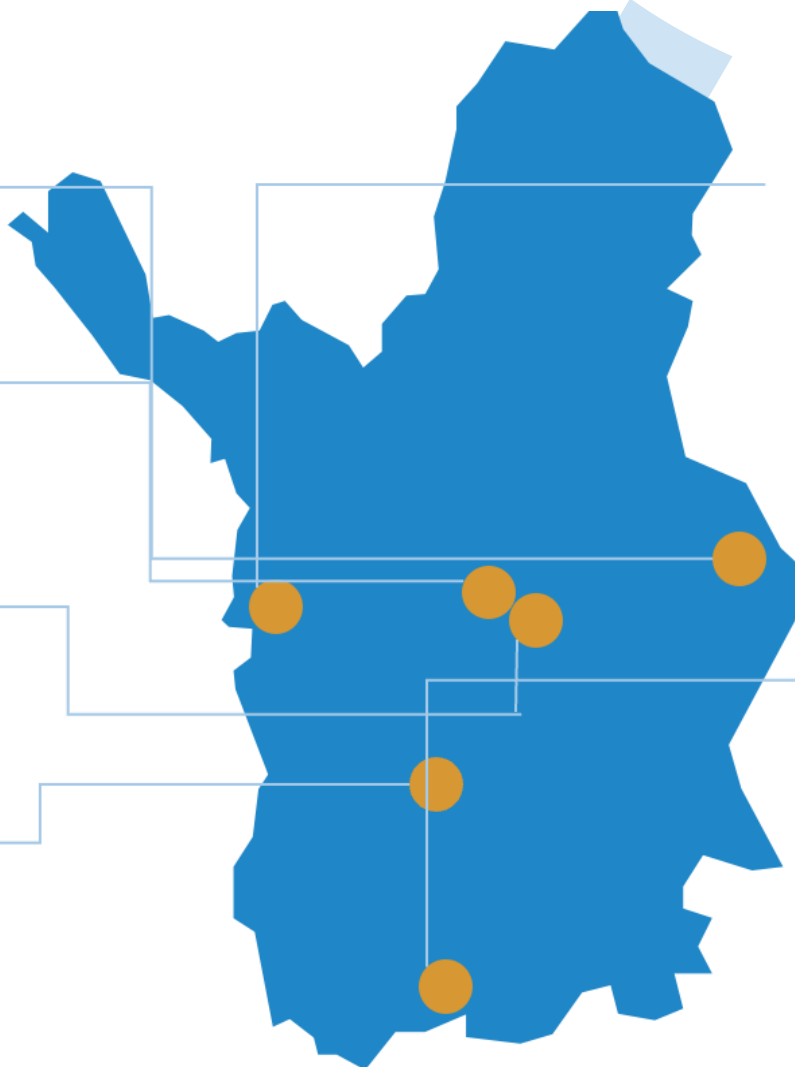
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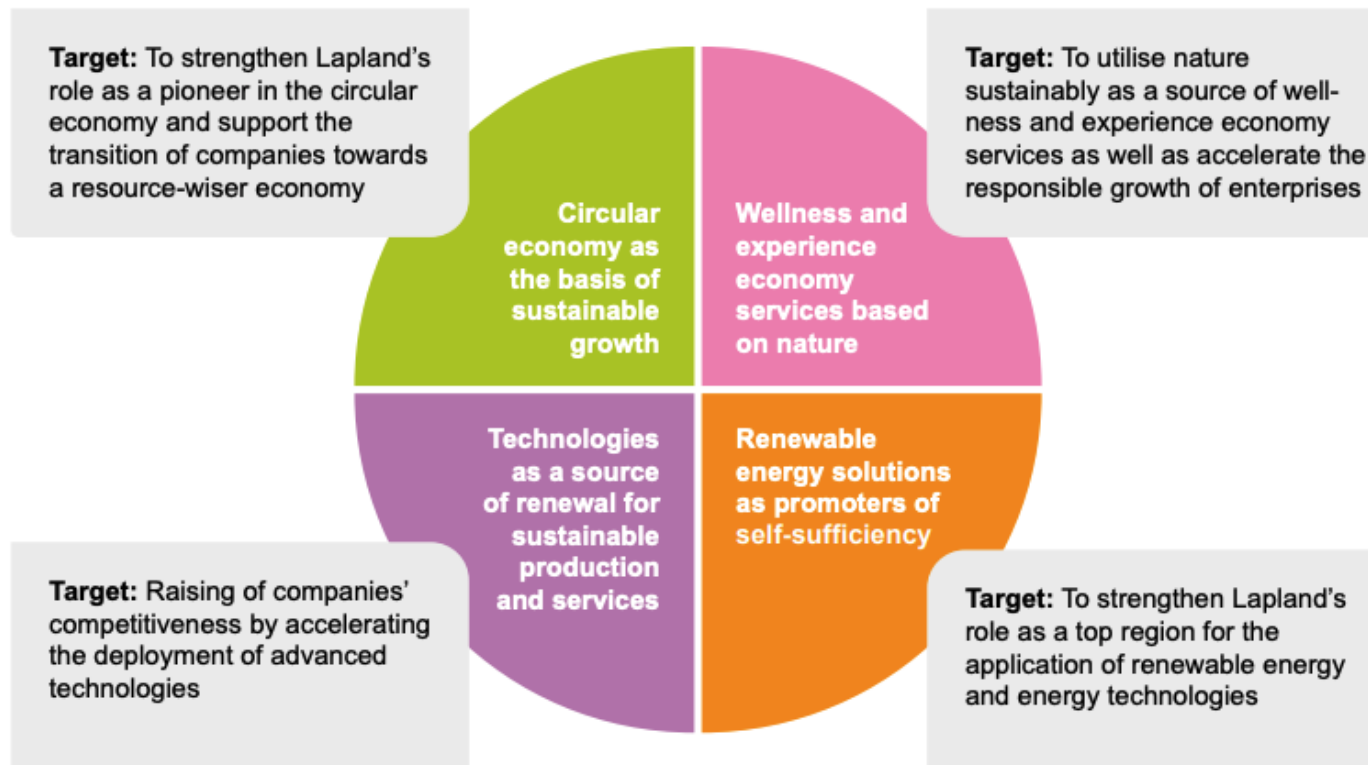
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Mining projects in Lapland

- 
- Sokli
- Savukoski
 - Suomen Malmijalostus Oy
 - fosfate, iron, rare earth metals
- Pahtavaara / Ikkari
- Sodankylä
 - Rupert Finland Oy
 - gold
- Sakatti
- Sodankylä
 - AA Sakatti Mining Oy)
 - copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium, cold, silver
- Rajapalot
- Rovaniemi ja Ylitornio
 - Mawson Oy
 - gold, cobalt
- Hannukainen
- Kolari
 - Hannukainen Mining Oy
 - iron, copper, gold
- Suhanko
- Ranua
 - Arctic Platinum Oy
 - palladium, platin, copper, nickel, gold



Smart specialisation priorities



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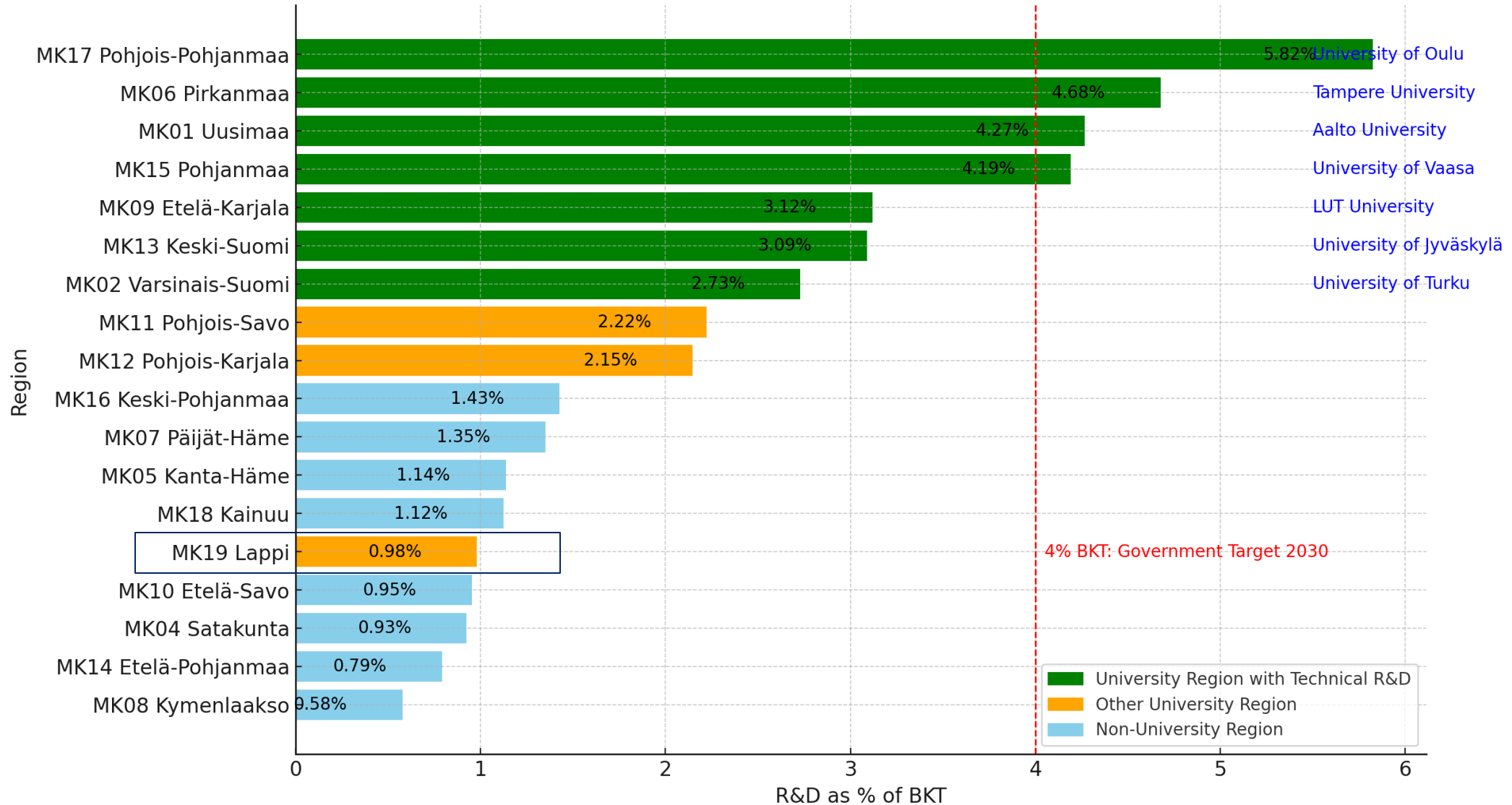
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R&D Expenses as Percentage of BKT by Region (Technical Faculties Highlighted)

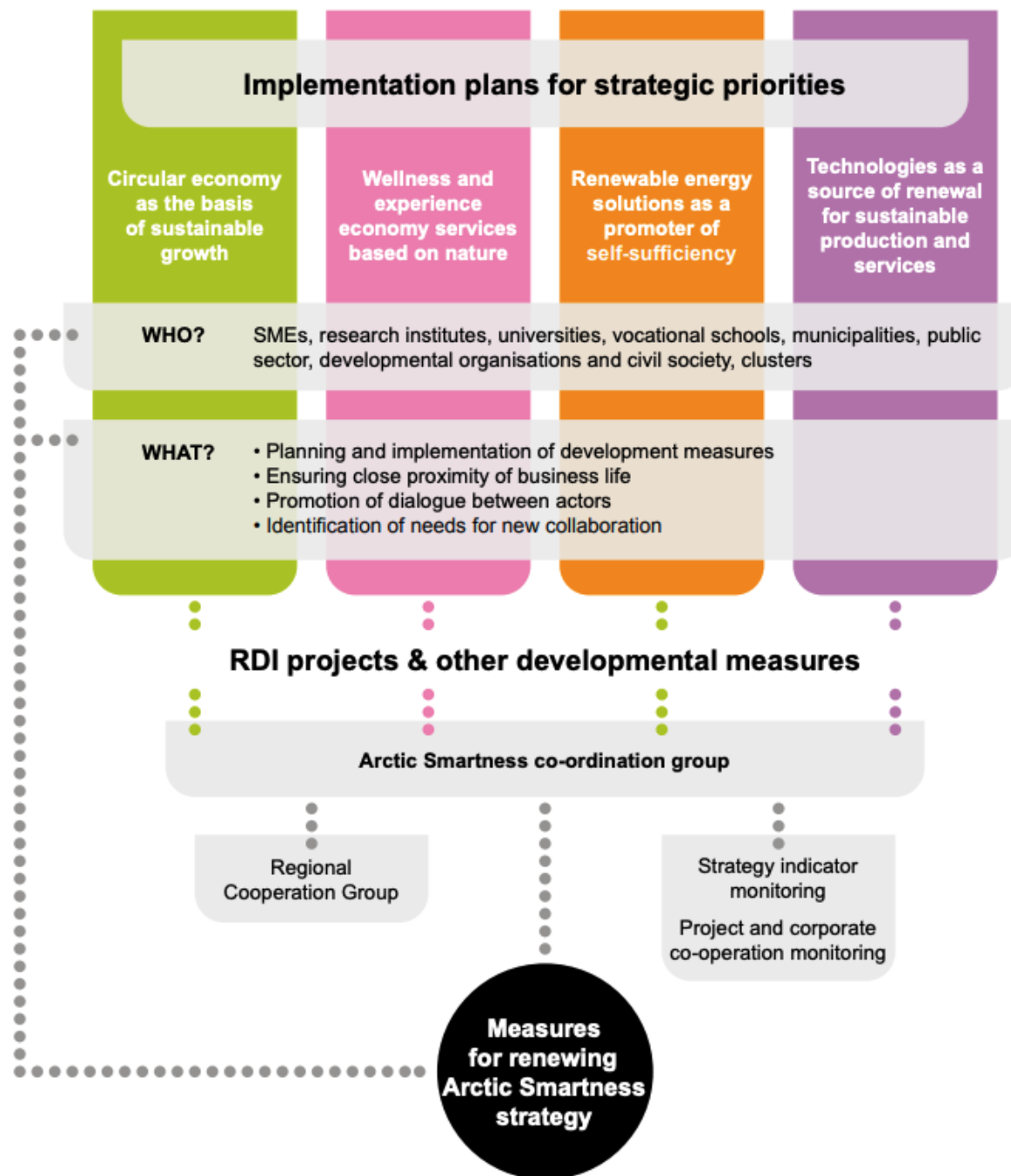
Data Indicative, BKT from 2021, R&D Data from 2023, Source: Tilastokeskus



Indicative statistics: provincial R&D expenditure vs. regional GDP. Latest public GDP in 2023

Implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the strategy

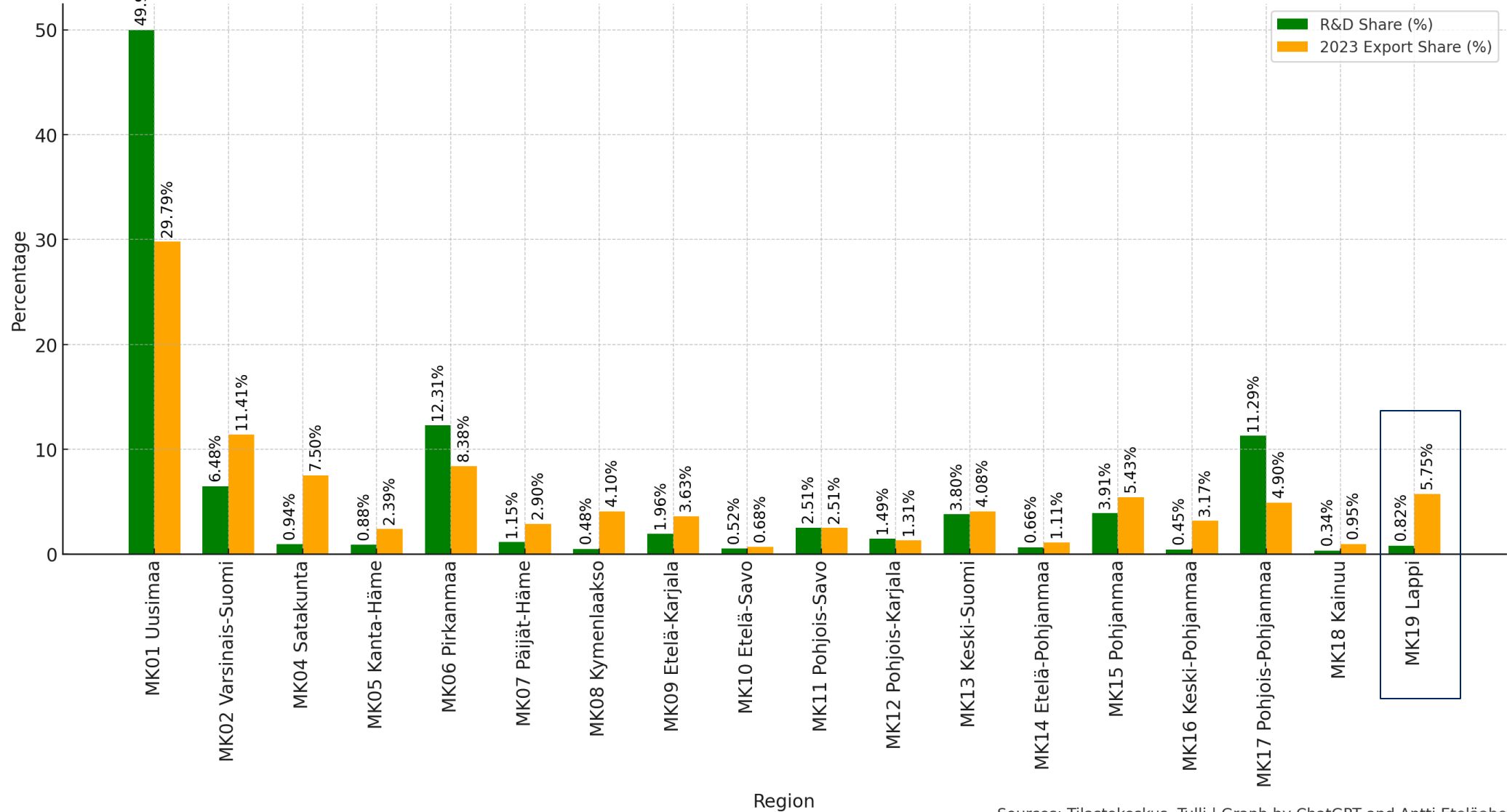
Model for implementing and evaluating the strategy. (Fig. 10)



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Comparison of R&D Share and 2023 Export Share by Region



Sources: Tilastokeskus, Tulli | Graph by ChatGPT and Antti Etelä-Karjala

Comparison of the regions' shares in the Finland's R&D expenditure (green) and exports (yellow) in 2023.



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Future investments in Lapland over the next 10 years

- Industry ~6.2 billion €
- Mining sector ~5.3 billion €
- The energy sector's ~16.3 billion €
- Tourism ~1.2 billion €
- Public/other investments ~1.9 billion €

A total of ~30.9 billion. €

What's Ahead for Lapland

- Growth in tourism → **sustainable** growth
- Possible opening of a mine (+ other investments) → **workforce demand**
- Increased corporate R&D spending → **company growth & exports; ownership changes**
- Dual-use technologies & development → **NATO, FLF, DCA, F-35, international cooperation, drones**
- Arctic dimension → **climate change, sea routes, Trump's interest**



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Thank you!